

Douglas C. McMurtrie papers

S1119

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
317-232-3671

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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	McMurtrie, Douglas C. (Douglas Crawford), 1888-1944
Title	Douglas C. McMurtrie papers
Date	1932-1933
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1119

Preferred Citation

Douglas C. McMurtrie papers, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

Douglas Crawford McMurtrie was born July 20, 1887 in Belmar, New Jersey to William and Helen M. (Douglass) McMurtrie, both of Scottish descent. He was one of two children. He attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1906 to 1909, with the intent of becoming an electrical engineer but dropped out without a degree. He worked as a statistician, then typographer and became the director of the Columbia University Printing Office in 1917. He became president of the Arbor Press and build a modern printing plant in Greenwich, CT, which he sold to Conde Nast in 1921. He designed two typefaces, McMurtrie Title and Vanity Fair Capitals and helped design the format of the *New Yorker Magazine*. He helped found the Continental Typefounders Association. He was editor of *Ars Typographica* from 1925-1926, then became typographic director of the Cuneo Press in Chicago and later the Ludlow Typograph Company. He also wrote and researched many publications, his bibliographic numbering over 500 titles. In 1936 he was appointed editor of a Works Progress Administration (WPA) project know as the American Imprints Inventory, which issued 35 publications. He also directed another WPA project, an unpublished index to printing periodicals.

His chief interest outside of work was the care and education of "crippled" children and the rehabilitation of the and their rehabilitation. He edited the *American Journal of Care for Cripples* from 1912 to 1919 and became president of the Federation of Associations for Cripples. During World War I he served as director of the Red Cross Institute for Crippled and Disabled Men.

He married Adele Koehler on February 20, 1915, with whom he had three children: Havelock Heydon, Helen Josephine and Thomas Baskerville. He died September 29, 1944 in Evanston, Illinois and is buried in Graceland Cemetery, Chicago, Illinois.

Sources:

Items in the collection.

Ancestry.com. "McMurtrie, Douglas C." *1900 United States Federal Census*. Retrieved 2015/08/28. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>.

Ancestry.com. "McMurtrie, Douglas C." *U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925*. Retrieved 2015/08/28. <http://interactive.ancestrylibrary.com>

"McMurtrie, Douglas Crawford." In *Dictionary of American Biography*, Supplement Three, 1942-1945. (New York, NY: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1973), 492 – 493.

Ancestry.com. "McMurtrie, Douglas Crawford". Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947. Retrieved 2015/08/28. <http://search.ancestrylibrary.com>

Scope and Contents

This collection includes correspondence from Douglas C. McMurtrie in Chicago, Illinois ranging from 1932 to 1933 regarding questions about printing history and specific books.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a records transfer from the Indiana State Library Director's office and Indiana Division.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing completed 2005/04 by Jennifer Duplaga. EAD finding aid created 2015/08/28 by Edythe Huffman.

Controlled Access Headings

Subject(s)

- Authors and publishers
- Book editors
- Books
- Correspondence
- Periodical editors